ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A technique is described for providing service to multiple ports sharing common scheduling resources. According to one implementation, the scheduling technique of the present invention may be used to dynamically balance the frequency of needs of different client flows to the resource availability of the scheduling process for client flows which have relative time sensitive needs of service. Moreover, according to a specific implementations, the scheduling technique of the present invention may be used to provide efficient allocation of switching and/or scheduling resources across multiple ports even in the presence of dynamic port bandwidth changes.